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7 JAN 1961

Mr. William R. Baker, Jr.
Chairman of the Board
Benton & Bowles, Inc.
666 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Baker:

Thank you very much for your letter of 23 December inviting me to speak at the meeting of the National USO Organization on Wednesday, 15 March.

Much as I would like to join you on this occasion, I sincerely regret that I will be unable to accept your kind invitation. With all the problems involved in connection with the change of administration and the requirement for me to be constantly available over the next few months, I have decided to restrict my outside speaking engagements.

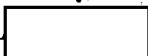
Your thoughtfulness in asking me to participate in the breakfast session is indeed appreciated and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you every success in your meeting.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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